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| <p><u>Count 2</u></p> <p>A coin mechanism capable of connection to a controller that is configured to operate in a three coin tube environment,</p> <p>wherein the coin mechanism comprises:</p> <p>four coin tubes each for storing coins of a respective denomination;</p> <p>a dispenser for dispensing coins from the coin tubes; and</p> <p>a processor that is coupled to the dispenser</p> <p>and that is configured to receive dispense signals from the controller when connected thereto, and to cause one or more coins to be dispensed from the coin tubes in response to the received dispense signals.</p> | <p><u>U.S. Patent No. 5,733,186 Claim 18</u></p> <p>Claim 18 of U.S. Patent No. 5,733,186 is a method claim corresponding to apparatus claim 20.</p> <p><b>18. A method of modifying an existing vending machine which includes a controller having three coin tube interface lines . . .</b></p> <p><b>(b) installing a four coin tube changer within the vending machine, each coin tube storing one coin denomination</b></p> <p><b>and each coin tube having payout means associated therewith,</b></p> <p><b>the four coin tube coin changer including a processing means operably connected to each of the coin payout means,</b></p> <p><b>the four coin tube coin changer including three signal receiving lines connected to the processing means, and</b></p> <p><b>(c) connecting the three coin tube interface lines to the three signal receiving lines of the processing means.</b></p> |
| <p><u>Count 2</u></p> <p>A coin mechanism capable of connection to a controller that is configured to operate in a three coin tube environment,</p> <p>wherein the coin mechanism comprises:</p> <p>four coin tubes each for storing coins of a respective denomination;</p> <p>a dispenser for dispensing coins from</p>  | <p><u>U.S. Patent No. 5,733,186 Claim 20</u></p> <p><b>20. A coin changer configured for installation in a vending machine which is configured for operation in an N coin tube vending scheme,</b></p> <p>Claim 20 subsequently recites "where . . . N=3."</p> <p><b>the coin changer comprising:</b></p> <p><b>M coin tubes, each coin tube for storing one coin denomination therein, where <math>M &gt; N</math> and where <math>M=4</math> and <math>N=3</math>,</b></p> <p><b>coin payout means associated with</b></p>  |

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| <p>the coin tubes; and</p> <p>a processor that is coupled to the dispenser</p> <p>and that is configured to receive dispense signals from the controller when connected thereto, and to cause one or more coins to be dispensed from the coin tubes in response to the received dispense signals.</p> | <p><b>each coin tube, and</b></p> <p><b>a processing means . . . operably connected to each coin payout means,</b></p> <p><b>the processing means operable, in response to signals received on the N signal receiving lines, to effect signals which operate the coin payout means in order to payout change, that for a given change payout operation, the processing means is capable of paying out coins from each of the M coin tubes.</b></p> |
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